



**Virginia Department of Health
Remote Area Medical Clinic
Media Tour
July 2006**

Spokesperson Biographies

**Robert B. Stroube, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Commissioner**

Dr. Robert B. Stroube is State Health Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In this capacity, he serves as the principal advisor to the Governor, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and the Virginia General Assembly on a wide range of issues that affect the public's health. Dr. Stroube led the Virginia Department of Health response to the September 11 attack on the Pentagon and later anthrax contamination of mail which subsequently led to three cases of inhalational anthrax, all of whom survived and returned home. Dr. Stroube also leads Virginia's public health strategy to prevent human infection from West Nile Virus which is now firmly established in all regions of our state.

Dr. Stroube held virtually every leadership position in public health at the state and local level in Virginia, including a previous stint as State Health Commissioner from 1990-1994. He led the state health department through a crucial period in the agency's history. These state-level leadership positions include service as the Chief Deputy, State Epidemiologist, Deputy Commissioner for Community Health Services where he was responsible for oversight and management of the local public health system in Virginia and as Assistant Commissioner for Health Protection and Environmental Management. At the local level, he has served as a District Health Director in Fairfax and Chesterfield counties and as Deputy Director for Prince William County.

Dr. Stroube earned an undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary, his master of public health from the Johns Hopkins University, and his doctor of medicine degree from the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Stroube is a specialist in preventive medicine as certified by the American College of Preventive Medicine.

Among many other honors and awards, Dr. Stroube is a recipient of the 2002 Brachman Award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) graduating class of 2000. The award is given in honor of those who provide excellence in teaching epidemiology to EIS Officers during their training. He was also nominated as a Public Health Hero in honor of Public Service Week in Virginia 2002. Most recently, Dr. Stroube was named as a recipient of the Dr. Nathan Davis Award for 2003 by the American Medical Association. The award recognizes elected and career officials in federal, state or municipal service whose outstanding contributions have promoted the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health.

Jack O. Lanier, Dr. P.H., MHA, FACHE
Chairman of the State Board of Health

Jack O. Lanier was appointed by the Governor to a four-year term on the Virginia State Board of Health in 2001. In 2004, Dr. Lanier was elected by the 13-member body to serve as Chairman of the Board of Health. In 2005, Dr. Lanier was reappointed to a second four-year term and subsequently re-elected as Chair in 2006.

In addition to his membership on the Board of Health, Dr. Lanier was appointed Professor and Chairman of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the Virginia Commonwealth University, Medical College of Virginia campus, in December of 1992. Additionally, he was appointed Associate Vice President for Health Sciences for Public Health at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in July of 1997.

Before joining VCU's Medical College of Virginia, he served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs for three years, during which time he was responsible for the U. S. Defense Department's military health policy during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Also during this period, Dr. Lanier concurrently served for approximately 18 months as the Interim President of the Uniformed Services at the University of Health Sciences (USUHS), the Defense Department's medical school, in Bethesda, MD.

Currently, Dr. Lanier serves as Professor of Public Health Policy and Community Health with VCU's Department of Epidemiology and Community Health (formerly Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health). He has a joint faculty appointment with VCU's Department of Health Administration in the School of Allied Health Professions.

In acknowledgement of Dr. Lanier's education and training proficiency, he was recognized by Virginia Commonwealth University during the 2004 6th Annual Teaching Awards Program as a recipient of the "2004 Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in Health Sciences Education." In 2005, the VCU School of Medicine also recognized Dr. Lanier during the 7th Annual Faculty Excellence Awards Program as one of the 11 recipients of the "2005 Teaching Excellence Awards Nominees."

Dr. Lanier previously served as the Senior Vice President for Corporate and Community Development with the Greater Southeast Healthcare System in Washington, D.C., from 1985 – 1990. He served as Vice President of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) in Chicago, IL, from 1981 – 1985. He also served as Professor and Director of the U.S. Army-Baylor University Graduate Program in Health Administration at the Academy of Health Sciences in Fort Sam Houston, TX, during the period of 1977 – 1981. Earlier, Dr. Lanier had served as an Assistant Professor with the Army-Baylor University Health Administration for two years during the early 1970's following a tour of duty as commander of a MASH Hospital in the Republic of South Viet Nam.

As a Colonel in the Army Medical Department, Dr. Lanier served in a number of key executive level positions and command posts to include the U.S. Army Hospital of Regensburg, Germany, the U.S. Army Medical Center of Munich, Germany, the 93rd Evacuation Hospital (MASH) in Long Binh, Viet Nam, and the U.S. Military Academy Hospital in West Point, NY. Dr. Lanier also served for two years as the Congressional Liaison Officer with the Army Surgeon General's Office of Physical Standards during the period of 1966 – 1968.

For ten years, Dr. Lanier served as the Director of Virginia Commonwealth University's Master of Public Health (MPH) Program. His efforts led to VCU achieving the first CEPH-Accredited MPH program in Virginia. During the same period, he served on the Board of Directors of several national health care-related organizations, including the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine (ATPM), the Sisters of Mercy Health System in St. Louis, MO, the Wheaton Franciscan Services, Inc., of Wheaton, IL, the McAuley Institute (affordable housing) of Silver Spring, MD, the Virginia Statewide Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Board, and the Richmond's Homeward (Homeless) Board of Directors.

During the past several years, Dr. Lanier has represented Virginia Commonwealth University at international conferences in South Africa, Romania, and Grenada, conducting public health workshops and providing consultation services for pre-accreditation of public health programs. His professional activities have included frequent lectures with the Institute on Diversity in Chicago, IL, sponsored by the American Hospital Association and the American College of Healthcare Executives, as well as the Northeast Regional Public Health Leadership Institute (NEPHLI) in Albany, NY.

Currently, Dr. Lanier serves as a member of the East Carolina University (Greenville, NC) Advisory Board for their newly created Master of Public Health Program and a member of the "Youth Matters" project, which is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and addresses literacy issues among children in the Greater Richmond, Virginia area. In 2003, Dr. Lanier was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Education of the American Public Health Association (APHA).

Dr. Lanier's credentials include: a B.S. degree in Business Administration from the North Carolina A. & T. State University in Greensboro, NC; graduate study in Public Administration at George Washington in D.C.; a Master of Health Administration degree from Baylor University in Waco, TX; and a Doctorate in Public Health degree from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center School of Public Health, Houston.

Dr. Lanier is certified (and recertified) as a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives (FACHE).